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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[Docket No.: ED-2015-ICCD-0131]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget for Review and approval; Comment Request; Middle Grades Longitudinal Study of 2017-2018 (MGLS:2017) Recruitment for 2017 Operational Field Test

AGENCY: National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), Department of Education (ED).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 3501 *et seq.*), ED is proposing a revision of an existing information collection.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before **[INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]**.

ADDRESSES: To access and review all the documents related to the information collection listed in this notice, please use <http://www.regulations.gov> by searching the Docket ID number ED-2015-ICCD-0131. Comments submitted in response to this notice should be submitted electronically through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov> by selecting the Docket ID number or via postal mail, commercial delivery, or hand delivery. *Please note that comments submitted by fax or e-mail and those submitted after the comment period will not be accepted.* Written requests for information or comments submitted by postal mail or delivery should be addressed to the Director of the Information Collection Clearance Division, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, LBJ, Room 2E105, Washington, D.C. 20202-4537.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For specific questions related to collection activities, please contact Kashka Kubzdela at (202) 502-7411 or by email kashka.kubzdela@ed.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Department of Education (ED), in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)), provides the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed, revised, and continuing collections of information. This helps the Department assess the impact of its information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. It also helps the public understand the Department's information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format. ED is soliciting comments on the proposed information collection request (ICR) that is described below. The Department of Education is especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) Is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the Department minimize the burden of this

collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology. Please note that written comments received in response to this notice will be considered public records.

Title of Collection: Middle Grades Longitudinal Study of 2017-2018 (MGLS:2017) Recruitment for 2017 Operational Field Test

OMB Control Number: 1850-0911

Type of Review: A revision of an existing information collection.

Respondents / Affected Public: Individuals

Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses: 21,232

Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours: 6,947

Abstract: The Middle Grades Longitudinal Study of 2017-2018 (MGLS:2017) is the first study sponsored by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), within the Institute of Education Sciences (IES) of the U.S. Department of Education (ED), to follow a nationally-representative sample of students as they enter and move through the middle grades (grades 6-8). The data collected through repeated measures of key constructs will provide a rich descriptive picture of the academic experiences and development of students during these critical years and will allow researchers to examine associations between contextual factors and student outcomes. The study will focus on student achievement in mathematics and literacy along with measures of student socioemotional wellbeing and other outcomes. The study will also include a special sample of students with different types of disabilities that will provide descriptive information on their outcomes, educational experiences, and special education services. Baseline data for the MGLS:2017 will be collected from a nationally-representative sample of 6th grade students beginning in January 2018, with annual follow-ups beginning in January 2019 and in January 2020 when most of the students in the sample will be in grades 7 and 8, respectively. This request is to contact and recruit public school districts and public and private schools, beginning in January 2016, to participate in the MGLS:2017 Operational Field Test (OFT) which will take place from January to June 2017. The primary purpose of the OFT is to obtain information on recruiting, particularly for the targeted disability groups; obtaining a tracking sample that can be used to study mobility patterns in subsequent years; and testing protocols and administrative procedures. The OFT will inform the materials and procedures for the main study base year and follow-up data collections. The base year data collection will begin in January 2018. Because the MGLS:2017 Item Validation Field Test (IVFT) recruitment and data collection will still be ongoing at the time this request is approved, the burden and materials from the MGLS:2017 Recruitment for 2016 IVFT request (OMB# 1850-0911 v.3, 5, and 7) and from the MGLS:2017 IVFT Data Collection (OMB# 1850-0911 v.4) are being carried over in this submission.

Dated: November 10, 2015.

Stephanie Valentine,
Acting Director,
Information Collection Clearance Division,
Office of the Chief Privacy Officer,
Office of Management.

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